

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 23rd December 2012

Christmas & Seasons Greetings

The President officers and committee of the IRTS send Christmas wishes and greetings to all its members and friends at home and abroad.

Echo Ireland

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the next issue of Echo Ireland will not be published until early January. Deadline for inclusion is January 3rd. Your input would be greatly appreciated.

IRTS 80m Counties Contest 2013.

The date for the 2013 IRTS Winter 80m Counties Contest is Tuesday 1st January.

Check the rules at: www.irts.ie/cgi/showrules.cgi?80m Please notice Rule 4.4 and 4.5 and keep the portion of the band between 3.650 and 3.700 clear for non-contesters.

Also notice the change in Rule 10.1 which states Entries must be received by the Contest Manager not more than 14 days after the contest.

Unusual Special Event Station

The call sign November-Zero-Delta ("Now Zero Days"), described as a Doomsday Special Event Station celebrating the end of the World, originally scheduled for last Friday 21st December, was activated during the week.

Listeners to this bulletin on Sunday will know that the "end of the World" has been deferred, at least for the time being. N0D, operating from Texas, has been heard on a number of bands, and was easily workable from EI. In the absence of any major DXpeditions at this time of the year, the Doomsday station provided a good-humoured focus of attention.

EI13CLAN

As you may be aware, 2013 sees a major event entitled 'The Gathering' being promoted both at home and abroad to engage with the Irish Diaspora around the globe. This is a 32 county, cross border, initiative and given the unique ability of Amateur Radio to communicate so effectively, the Society will support the initiative by way of a variety of events and programmes during the year. We will announce particulars early in the new year by way of bulletins on the radio news service, a dedicated page on the IRTS website and of course in Echo Ireland. ComReg has issued to the Society a special event callsign 'EI 13 CLAN' which will be active through out the year, much as our 'EI 80 IRTS' call was used in 2012. We expect that the callsign will generate quite a lot of interest from overseas operators, particularly in the U.S., who have Irish roots, so if there are any members who have a particular interest in genealogy and who would be willing to assist with any such queries please contact Seamus EI8BP, or any member of the committee.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

2012 was a very busy year for the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and we look forward to 2013 being an even busier year. During 2012 we took part in many of the contests including the IRTS 80m summer counties contest where we took first place in the SSB only portable section. Congratulations to all involved. We ran some portable event stations from some vintage days including Inistioge and Cavan. We would like to thank the organisers of these events for inviting us and we look forward to returning in 2013. We also held a theory course for the amateur license and it was a great success and many thanks go to Mark EI7IS and David EI6GVB for the time and effort they put into the course. Many thanks to everyone that supported our various events and activities throughout the past year.

There will be no December meeting of the club and the next meeting will take on the 28th of January 2013 in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford at 8.30 p.m. The meeting will be preceded by a committee meeting at 8.00 pm. New members are always welcome. For up-to-date news about the club you can check our website www.searg.com and you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members and all our radio friends and their families in Ireland and around the world a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2013.

Expansion of UK 5Mhz Frequency

The latest edition of The 5 MHz Newsletter is now available. It is a combined Autumn/Winter edition. One article gives details of expansion of 5Mhz frequency. In brief, the present number of seven 3 kHz-wide channels have been integrated into and replaced by 11 frequency blocks of varying size. The newsletter can be viewed on bit.ly/YqeKJx

The Lagan Valley ARS Annual Rally

The Lagan Valley ARS annual rally and hamfest will be held on Saturday, 2 March 2013 commencing at 11:30 a.m. The venue will be the Village Centre, 7 Ballynahinch Road, Hillsborough BT26 6AR. Usual traders expected to attend and refreshments available. Admission £3.

Contact Jim, G10DVU for further information., Tel 04892662270

DX News

Kei KG2A will be QRV from Antigua from 23 – 29 December. He will use the callsign V25A and QSLs go via KG2A direct.

Max HB9TUZ is travelling to the Maldive Islands for a short holiday over the New Year. Look for him on all bands 10 – 80m SSB as 8Q7MS between 26 December and 3 January.

Another short term visitor to Lesotho is Kiyo JR1IZM who has been issued with the callsign 7P8ZM. He will be active until mid-January and QSLs go via his home call.

Prefix hunters will be interested in the callsign 8N119T. This is being used to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Tokyo Fire Department and will be on the air until 25 March.

Tom DL5NEN and Claudia DO5NEN are reactivating their S79NEN callsign in the Seychelles until 28 December. QSL to DO5NEN.

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam/at/irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news maybe telephoned to the radio news editor, Aidan, EI7JC on 085 7100511.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday

on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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